COCHIN
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION, 1116

Thursday, *the* *21st November 1940*
6th Vrischigam 1116

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at Eleven of the Clock with the Hon'ble the President (SIR SHANMUKHAM CHETTY, K.C.I.E.), in the Chair.

Messrs. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan, K. Ashtamurthi Nambudiripad and Shabdai S. Koder and Mrs. C. R. Iyyunni were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

DEPRESSED CLASS PUPILS—SUPPLY OF CLOTHES—TENDERS FOR

76. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether sanction has been accorded for supply of clothes to the Depressed Classes pupils in Schools for the current educational year;

(*b*) whether tenders have been called for for the supply;

(*c*) if not, why not;

(*d*) whether tenders have been called for for cloth-supply in 1114; if so, what was the tender deduction in that year?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Though no regular tender was called for, quotations were obtained from important merchants and rates were fixed as per lowest quotation. The calling of tenders was discontinued from 1115, since it was ordered to make the purchase from Jail, Industrial Schools and small weavers.

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(*c*) The institutions from where the purchases were to be made demanded enhanced prices for cloths owing to rise in the price of yarn, and the allotment under "Cloth Supply" was found quite insufficient, calculated at the enhanced rate. In order to ascertain the market condition, quotations for the required specifications were invited and the lowest quotation was accepted. Government institutions which were willing to supply at the market rates, were given preference.

(*d*) Yes. At 20 per cent deduction on the rates quoted below.—

Big	each	0—8—0
Medium	,,	0—4—0
Small	,,	0—2—9
Seetty per yard		0—3—0

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know, Sir, whether the Department has found it more convenient to adopt the present practice?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* It is certainly not more inconvenient. I cannot say it is very inconvenient. But if we should get better clothes at cheap rates, we have to adopt this.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Hitherto the difficulty was that we were not receiving clothes in time, due to the inconvenience caused by the delay in the supply by the contractors and also by the various industrial institutions from which these clothes were supplied. May I know whether the present arrangement was introduced with a view to expedite the supply also?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes. That was one of the reasons.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know, Sir, whether the cloth supply to the depressed class students is completed now?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I want notice.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I inform the Hon'ble Minister that till the end of last week the Kattakampal Malayalam School has not been supplied either with books or clothes, for distribution to the depressed classes.

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Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I have issued strict instructions in regard to this matter. After this question was raised here last time, I again enquired into the matter and the Protector was specially asked to see that such complaints are not caused and if there is any such thing, I shall deal with very severely.

DEPRESSED CLASSES COLONY—VIJAYARAGHAVAPURAM—THATCHING OF HOUSES

77. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the houses in Vijayaraghavapuram (Depressed Classes Colony) were thatched in 1115;

(*b*) what was the expenditure incurred for the same;

(*c*) whether tenders were called for, for the work; if not, why not;

(*d*) whether the works were checkmeasured in 1115 by the Protector; if so, when; whether he has recorded his satisfaction of the work before payment of the amount?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Rs. 236—12—0.

(*c*) Tenders were not called for. Since the technical hand was appointed only during the latter part of 1115 and since thatching had to be done before monsoon, the same was done departmentally under orders of Government.

(*d*) Materials for thatching were supplied to colonists and they in their turn thatched their houses. So no checking and recording satisfaction in the Measurement Book were deemed necessary. However, the Protector had inspected the work on paying visit to the colony and found that thatching had been done to satisfaction by the colonists.

I may also add that there was no officer then to supervise and check-measure the works. We wanted a Work Superintendent to check-measure the works. For want of a technical hand this had to be delayed for some time. It took some time to get a proper person selected for this purpose. In the meantime the monsoon also set in. Therefore the Protector was asked to do it, departmentally.

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